

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 SAI-01 ACDA-05

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PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /094 W

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R 041453Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 824

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA//

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CNO WASHDC//OP-614//

DA WASHDC/DAMI-II//
OSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, CH, MZ, RH
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - MARCH 4

1. SUMMARY:

--AS THE SOVIET PARTY CONGRESS GRINDS TOWARD IT CONCLUSION, THE PRESS REMAINS FILLED WITH SPEECHES BY SOVIET AND FOREIGN SPEAKERS;

--ON THE U.S., THE PRESS REPORTS ANOTHER PROTEST OVER FUTHER ANTI-SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK. THE RESULTS OF THE TWO PRIMARY ELECTIONS ARE GIVEN STRAIGHT COVERAGE, BUT OTHER ARTICLES ARE SHARPLY CIRITICAL. THE PRESS HAS NOT YET REPORTED OR COMMENTED ON THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO CEASE USING THE WORD "DETENTE";

--THE PRESS REPLAYS A U.S. PRESS ITEM ON ALLEGED CHINESE SUPPORT FOR KEEPING U.S. TROOPS IN SOUTH KOREA, AND ONE NEWSPAPER REVIEWS A NEW SOVIET ANTI-MAOIST FILM;

--PRAVDA REPORTS THE RHODESIA-MOZAMBIQUE SKIRMISH BUT DOES NOT MENTION THE "STATE OF WAR." END SUMMARY.

2. U.S.: ALL MEDIA REPORT THAT THE AMBASSADOR WAS CALLED IN ON MARCH 3 AND GIVEN A SOVIET PROTEST ABOUT "CONTINUING HARMFUL ACTS BY ZIONISTS AGAINST SOVIET INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES IN NEW YORK." THE ARTICLE MENTIONED THAT SEVERAL "CRUDE PROVOCATIONS" WERE INTENDED TO UPSET THE IMPROVEMENT OF SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS, AND COMMENTED THAT THE "VIRTUAL INACTIVITY" OF AMERICAN AUTHORITIES "PROMOTED" SUCH EVENTS. IZVESTIYA CARRIES A FOLLOWING ARTICLE FROM ITS NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT, V. KOBYSH, REPORTING THE FEBRUARY 27 SHOOTING INCIDENT AGAIN AND ADDING ACCOUNTS OF A FEBRUARY 29 DEMONSTRATION BY "HOLLIGAN ANTI-SOVIETS," AND OF LESSER INCIDENTS ON FEB. 12, 16, 18 AND 24. THE PERPETRATORS OF THESE INCIDENTS REMAIN FREE, SAID KOBYSH, AND THE NEW YORK AUTHORITIES
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HAVE DONE NOTHING TO CATCH OR PUNISH THEM. IN OTHER NEGATIVE ITEMS, IZVESTIYA REPORTS THAT THE PRESIDENT PRESSED CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS TO SUPPORT "THE STRONGEST MILITARY BUDGET IN ALL OF U.S. HISTORY." FROM GREECE, IZVESTIYA REPORTS THE ARRIVAL OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LAINGEN TO HOLD TALKS WITH GREEK GOVERNMENT LEADERS ABOUT CYPRUS. THE SAME ITEM REPORTS 6TH FLEET COMMANDER VICE ADMIRAL TURNER'S ARRIVAL IN ATHENS, COMMENTING THAT THE ACTIVITY OF THESE TWO OFFICIALS IS EVIDENCE OF "MASSIVE

PRESSURE ON GREECE BY THE U.S." KRASNAYA ZVEZDA CARRIES A TASS ITEM FROM ROME ON REPORTED CIA FUNDING TO ITALIAN NON-COMMUNIST PARTIES, AND CITES AMBASSADOR VOLPE THAT SUCH ACTIVITIES WERE INTENDED "TO STOP THE INCREASED INFLUENCE OF THE COMMUNISTS." ANOTHER TASS ITEM IN KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES OF THE U.S. EMBASSY IN PARIS ALLEGEDLY AIMED AT INTERFERING IN FRENCH INTERNAL AFFAIRS BY WARNING FRENCH SOCIALISTS AGAINST COOPERATION WITH THE COMMUNISTS. THE ITEM MENTIONS POLITICAL COUNSELOR COHEN BY NAME. LITERATURNAYA GAZETA REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF U.S. REACTION TO BREZHNEV'S SPEECH, RANGING FROM THE KENNEDY-HUMPHREY-JAVITS SUPPORT FOR FURTHER ARMS LIMITATIONS TO SENATOR THURMOND'S CRITICISM OF SOVIET "EXPANSIONISM." THE ARTICLE CARRIES THE FIRST MENTION WE HAVE NOTED OF THE RECENT CIA STUDY ON MILITARY BUDGET COMPARISONS AND OF THE PENTAGON R&D DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT ON SOVIET ATTITUDES TOWARD THE FEASIBILITY OF NUCLEAR WAR ("...REGARDS NUCLEAR WAR AS UNAVOIDABLE, AND IS STRIVING LESS TO AVOID SUCH A WAR THAN IT IS PREPARING TO WAGE IT.") LITERATURNAYA GAZETA ALSO CARRIES A RAMBLING ARTICLE BY ANTON REFREZHE (PHONETIC) ABOUT HIS EFFORTS TO CONVINCE AMERICANS ABOUT THE HIGH QUALITY OF SOVIET ART AND LITERATURE. ACCORDING TO THE HEADNOTE, THE NEW YORK TIMES REFUSED TO PRINT AN ARTICLE OF HIS (SEPTEL). THE ONLY NEUTRAL ITEM ON THE U.S. WAS A REPORT OF THE RESULTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS AND VERMONT PRIMARIES. IT NOTED SENATOR JACKSON'S WIN ON THE DEMOCRATIC SIDE IN MASSACHUSETTS AND REPLAYED "AMERICAN OBSERVER'S" COMMENTS THAT IT SIGNALS A SHIFT TO THE RIGHT AMONG AMERICAN VOTERS. THE ITEM ALSO REPORTED PRESIDENT FORD'S VICTORIES ON THE REPUBLICAN SIDE.

3. CHINA. THE CENTRAL PRESS CARRIES A TASS REPORT CITING A "WASHINGTON POST" ARTICLE AS SAYING THAT CHINA WANTS THE U.S. TO KEEP ITS FORCES IN SOUTH KOREA. THIS IMPRESSION IS ATTRIBUTED TO SENATOR PERCY, CONGRESSMAN ANDERSON AND CONGRESSWOMEN HECKLER AND MINK BASED ON THEIR TALKS IN PEKING IN RECENT MONTHS. THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TASS ITEM ALSO REPLAYS A CHINESE DIPLOMAT'S REPORTED COMMENT THAT "THESE AMERICAN FORCES DO NOT DISTURB" CHINA. LITERATURNAYA GAZETA CARRIES A REVIEW OF THE NEW SOVIET FILM "BEWARE* MAOISM*", WHICH WAS RELEASED THIS WEEK. THE REVIEW SAYS THAT THE FILM, LIKE THE SAME DIRECTOR'S (MEDVEDKIN) EARLIER FILM, "NIGHT OVER CHINA," SHOWS THAT "MAOISM HAS NOTHING AT ALL IN COMMON WITH MARXISM-LENINISM"

4. RHODESIA/MOZAMBIQUE. PRAVDA CARRIES A BRIEF REPORT OF THE SKIRMISH BETWEEN RHODESIA AND MOZAMBIQUE. ACCORDING TO PRAVDA, MACHEL ANNOUNCED THAT AS A RESULT OF RHODESIAN "ARMED PROVOCATIONS," SEVEN MOZAMBICANS HAD BEEN KILLED. PRAVDA ADDS THAT MOZAMBIQUE'S BORDER WITH RHODESIA HAD BEEN CLOSED, ALL RHODESIAN PROPERTY IN MOZAMBIQUE HAD BEEN CONFISCATED, AND RHODESIA'S RAIL CONNECTION ACROSS MOZAMBIQUE TO THE SEA HAD BEEN CLOSED.

COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE ARTICLE DID NOT MAKE A REFERENCE TO MACHEL'S
REPORTED STATEMENT OF A "STATE OF WAR," THE IMPLICATION IS CLEAR
THAT SUCH A STATE EXISTS.
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